



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, March 09, 2018

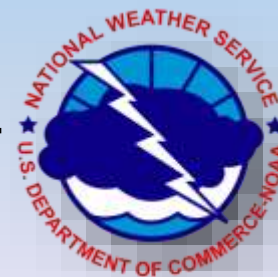
Issued: 0800 CT

Day 1 Weather Hazards: Elevated/critical fire weather conditions in SE NM/W TX.

River Flood Status: Major Flooding at isolated points in E AR. Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across E TX and LA.

National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX



Prepared by: Felecia Bowser/Jennifer McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points



Today

- Elevated/critical fire weather threat across SE NM/W TX.

Saturday

- Strong to severe storms possible over SE OK/ S AR and LA late Friday night into Saturday: hail, damaging winds and isolated tornadoes are all possible.
- Isolated moderate to heavy rain/flash flooding possible across S AR/N LA.
- Elevated/critical fire weather threat across E NM/South Plains/Davis and Guadalupe Mountains.

Sunday

- Lingering rainfall on Sunday may prolong ongoing flooding across AR/N LA.

Monday - Tuesday

- No significant weather is expected.

River Flood Status

- Major flooding is forecast on the MS River this weekend. Significant river rises and flooding across far NE TX, N LA, and AR in AR and LA is expected.
- Potential for rainfall for the next 5 days and beyond would exacerbate flooding concerns across NE LA and MS.
- The crest on the MS River is just above Memphis, TN and similar to Jan.2016 flood levels.
 - This flood event will continue through the third week of March with a crest at Morgan City, LA on the Atchafalaya River expected on March 23rd.
 - The Bonnet Carre Spillway is open. River forecasts account for this opening.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 9, 2018 through Mar 13, 2018

DAY / THREAT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Storms		SE OK/S AR/N LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding		SE AR/NE LA			
Fire Weather	SE NM/W TX	E NM/South Plains/Davis & Guadalupe Mountains			
Winter					
River Flooding	AR				
	E TX/LA				

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

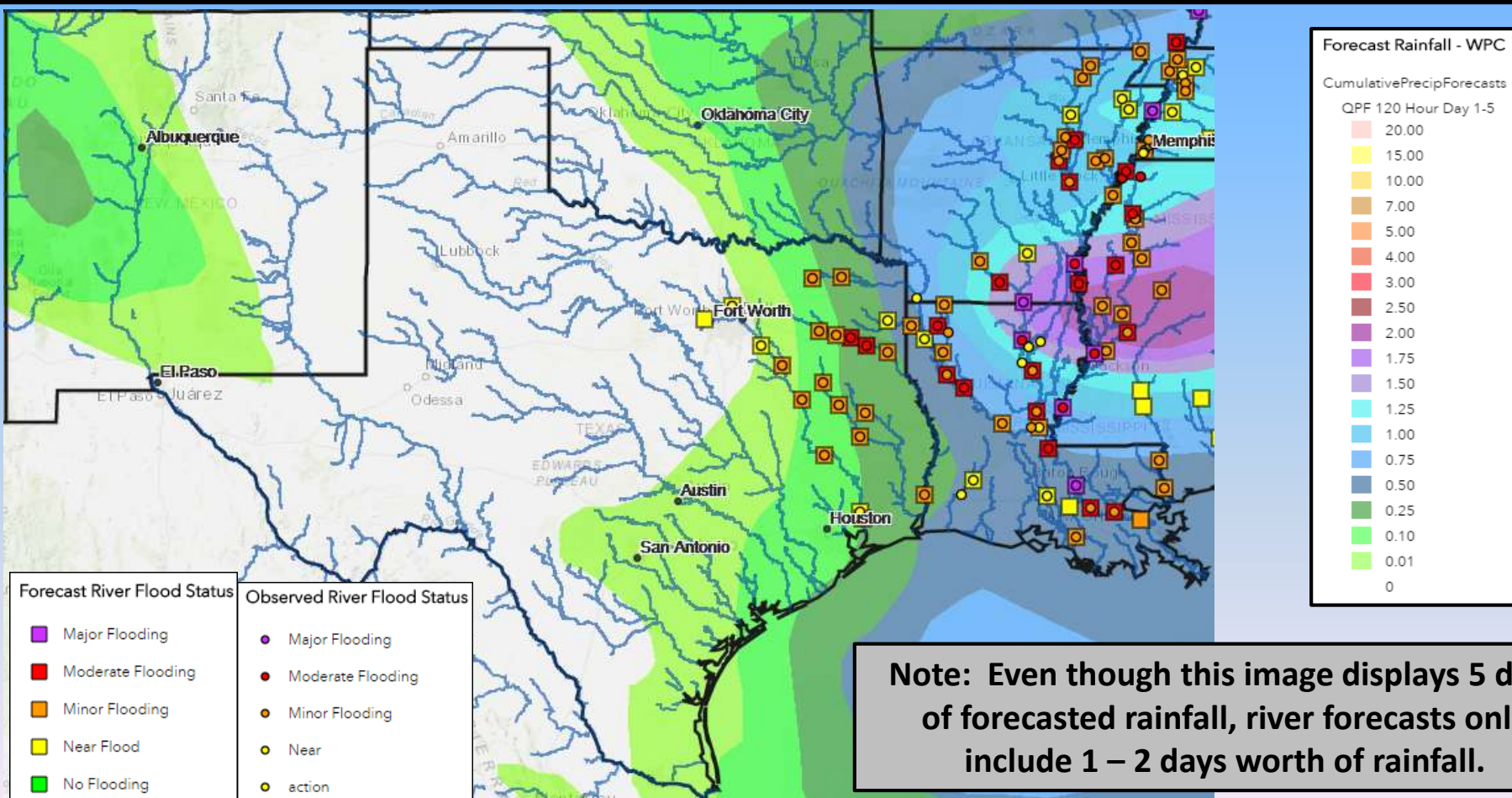


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Major flood stage is occurring or forecast along portions of the Cache, Ouachita, and MS Rivers in E AR.

Widespread minor/moderate river flooding continues across E TX and LA.

The crest on the MS River is just above Memphis, TN and similar to 2016 flood levels. This flood event will continue through the third week of March with a crest at Morgan City, LA on the Atchafalaya River expected on March 23rd. The Bonnet Carre Spillway is open. River forecasts account for this opening.



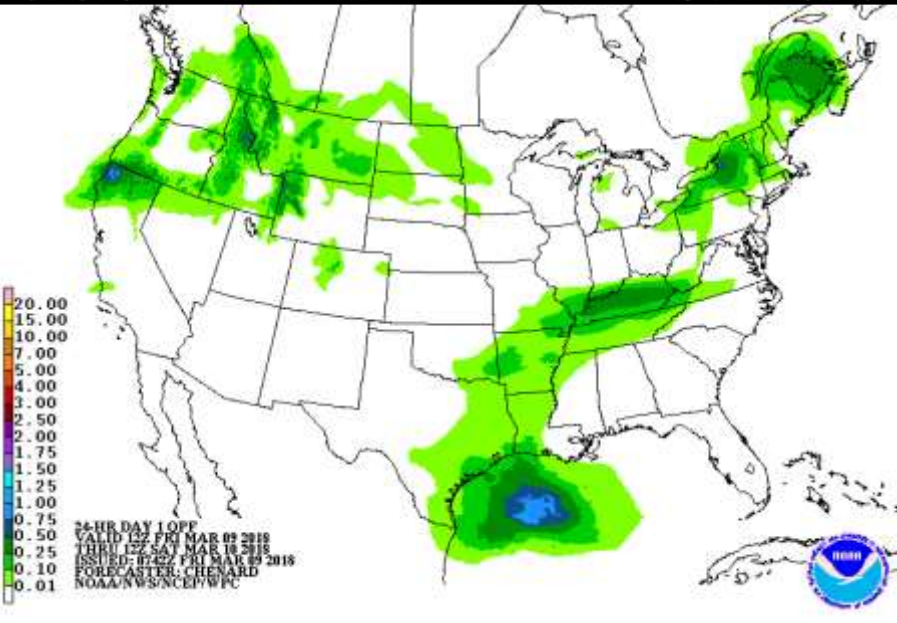
See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

Today's Weather



Day 1 National Forecast Chart
Valid Fri, Mar 09, 2018, issued 4:41 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

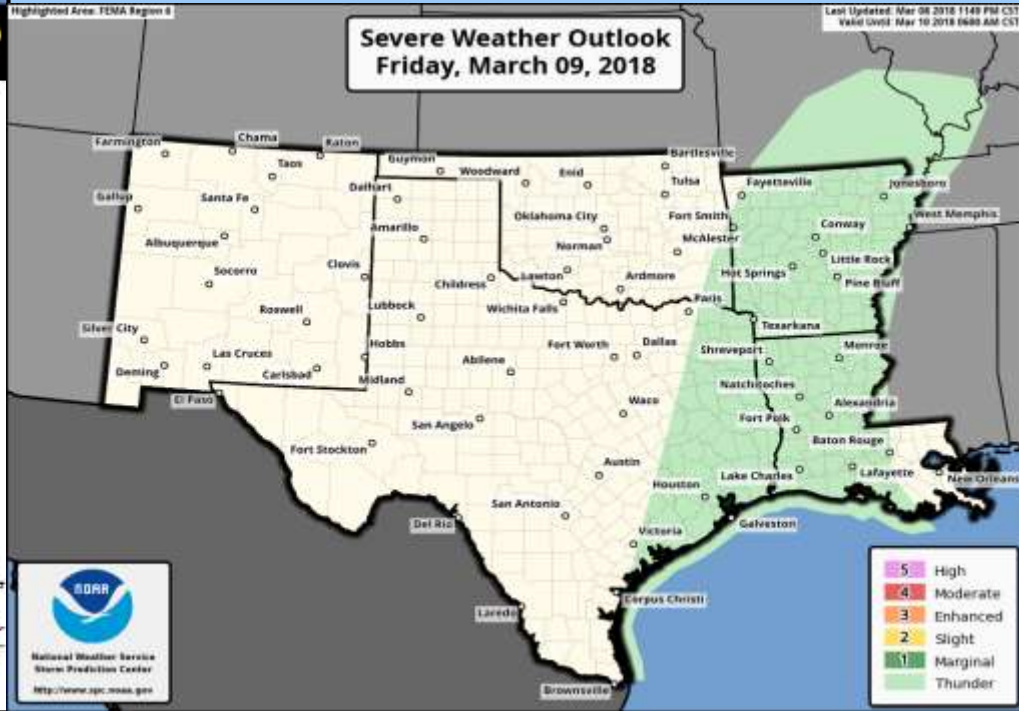
Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-Hour Day 1 Off
Valid 12Z Fri Mar 09 2018
Thru 12Z Sat Mar 10 2018
Issued 10:42Z Fri Mar 09 2018
Forecast by CHENARD
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Isolated major flooding in NE & S AR.
Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA

Elevated/critical fire weather conditions over
SE NM/W TX.



Severe Weather Outlook
Friday, March 09, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 08 2018 11:48 PM CST
Valid Until: Mar 10 2018 06:00 AM CST

NOAA
National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High
4 Moderate
3 Enhanced
2 Slight
1 Marginal
0 Thunder

Tomorrow's Weather

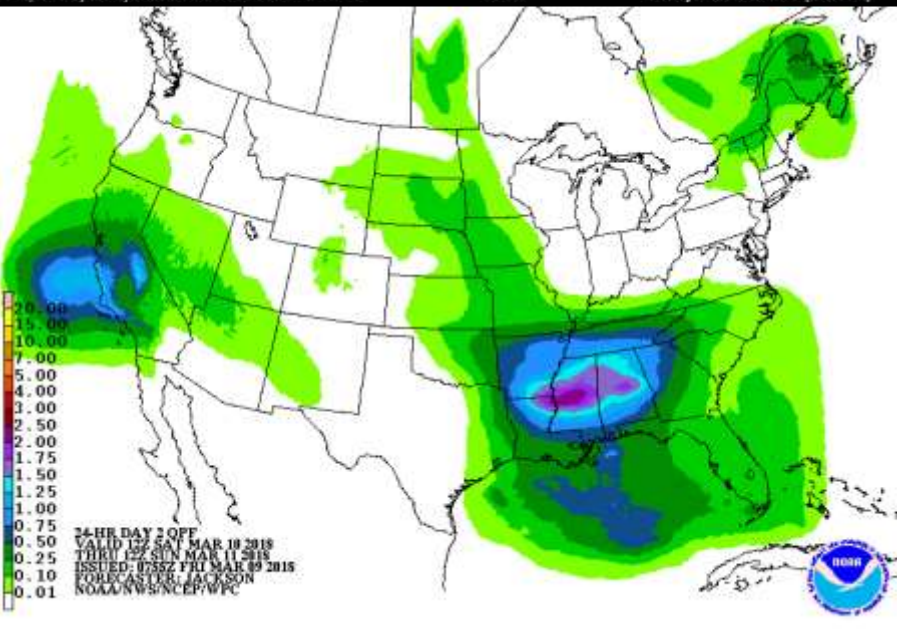


Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Mar 10, 2018, issued 4:47 AM EST Fri, Mar 09, 2018
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
 Rain and T'Storms
 Rain and Snow
 Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OFF
 VALID 12Z SAT MAR 10 2018
 THRU 12Z SUN MAR 11 2018
 ISSUED 0755Z FRI MAR 09 2018
 FORECASTER JACKSON
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WR

**Isolated major flooding in NE AR.
 Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA.**

**Severe thunderstorms possible SE OK/S AR/N LA:
 hail, damaging winds and isolated tornadoes are all possible.**

**Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible
 SE AR/NE LA.**

**Elevated/critical fire weather conditions over
 SE NM/W TX.**

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

**Severe Weather Outlook
 Saturday, March 10, 2018**

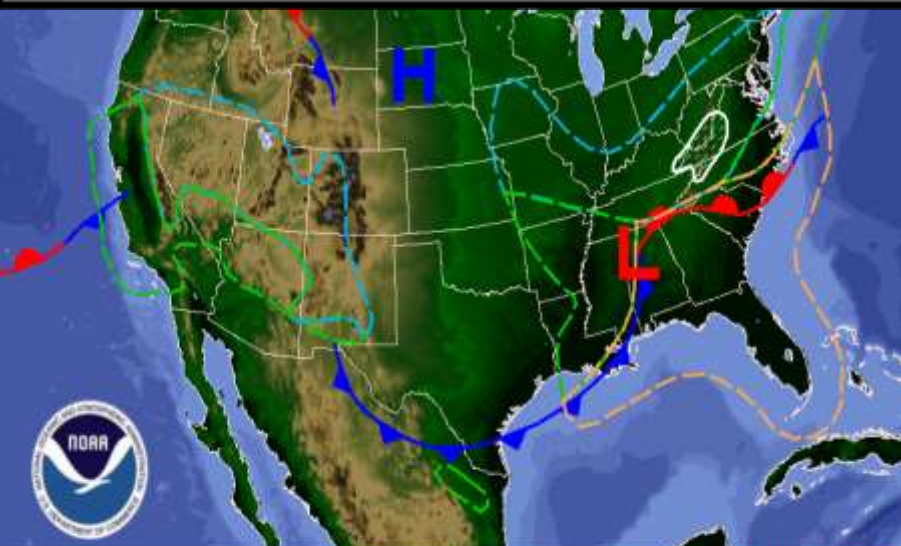
Last Updated: Mar 09 2018 11:25 PM CST
 Valid Until: Mar 11 2018 0700 AM CDT



NOAA
 National Weather Service
 Storm Prediction Center
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High
 4 Moderate
 3 Enhanced
 2 Slight
 1 Marginal
 Thunder

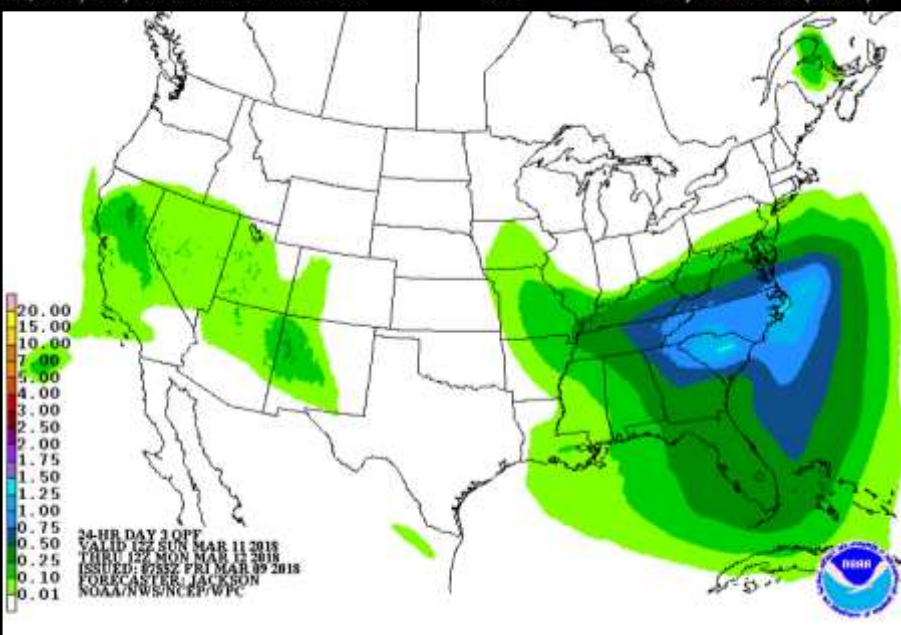
Sunday's Weather



Isolated major flooding in NE AR.
Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA.

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

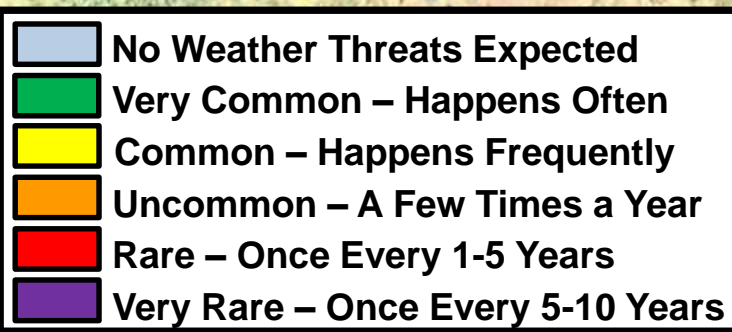


Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Monday-Tuesday



**No significant
weather impacts**

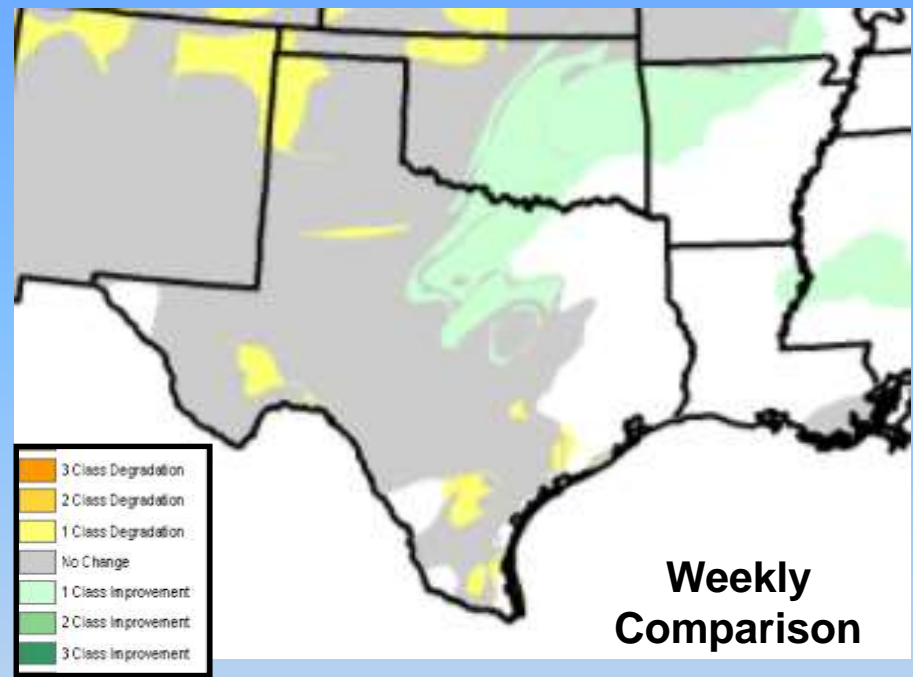
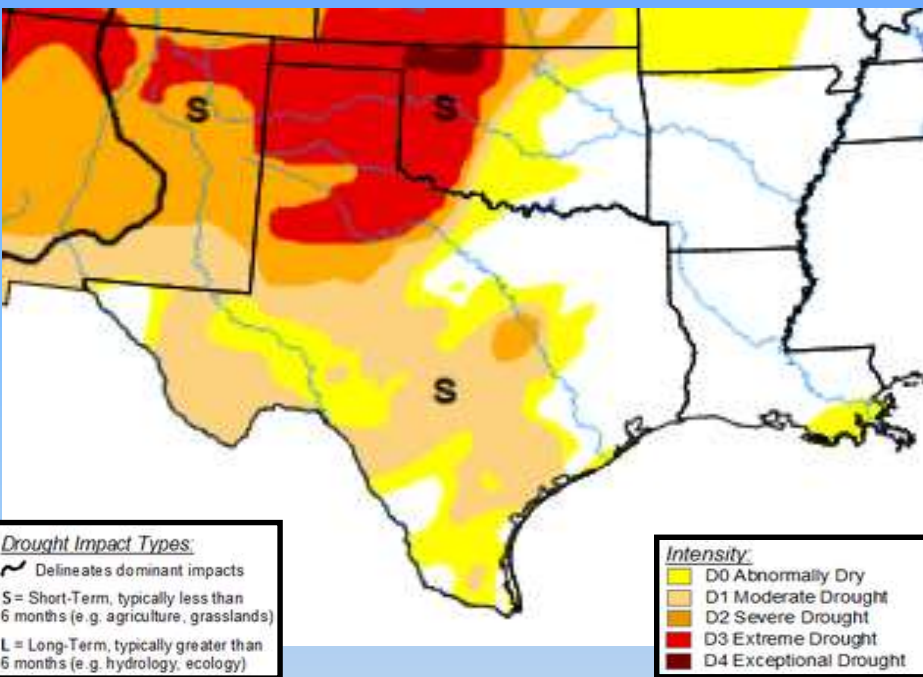


***Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.**



Drought Monitor Released March 8, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 6, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)				
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	14.66%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.45%	32.91%	0.78%	3.17%
Texas	14.16%	11.47%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	17.08%	5.23%	0.00%	0.00%

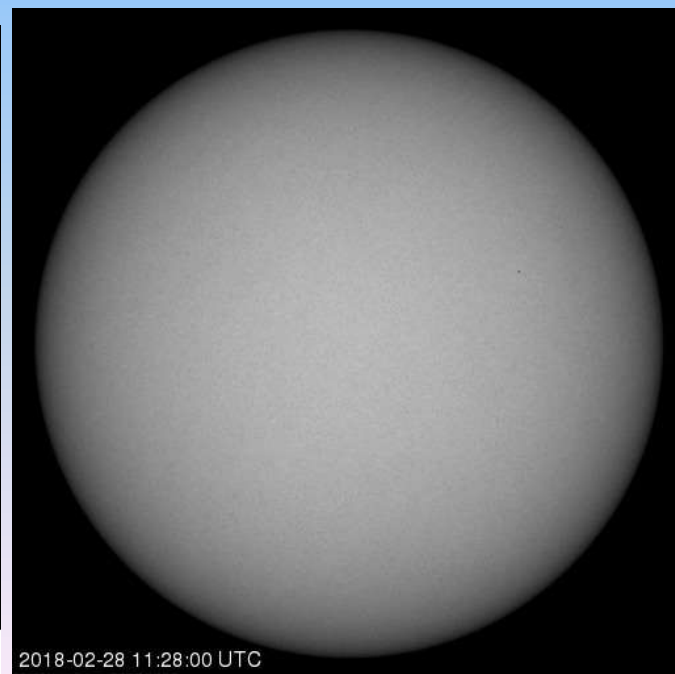
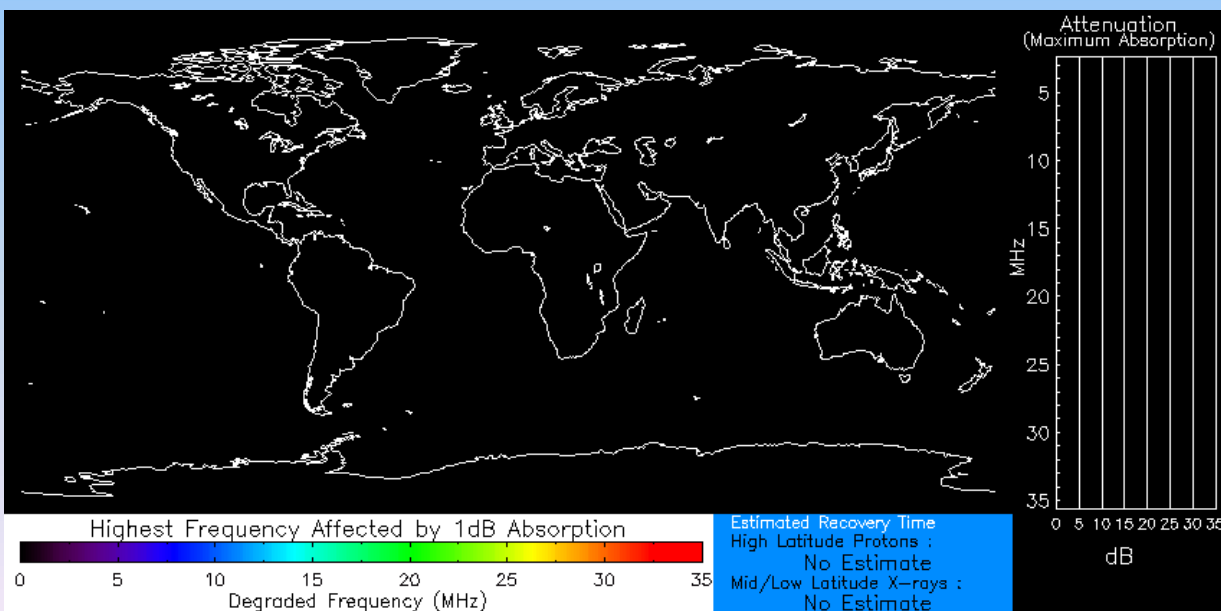
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%

[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms